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NOTES ON
LARVA AND HABITAT OF
CALLOPHRYS FOTIS BAYENSIS
(LYCAENIDAE)

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GUPPY (1959) STATES that *Callophrys fotis mossii* (H. Edw.) has been feeding long enough on its host to evolve a "complicated system of protective coloration." This is also true with *Callophrys fotis bayensis* (Brown). The eggs hatch in three to five days (in captivity) after being laid on the under side of leaves on the flower stock of *Sedum spathulifolium* (Hooker). The larva are green when they hatch; they remain this color, if they continue to feed on green leaves, but if they feed on older red leaves the caterpillars are red or pink. In the last instars, if they feed on the flowers which are yellow, the caterpillars then turn yellow. The pupa is brown with dark specks and a light pubescent covering.

The young and middle instars feed by boring into the thick succulent leaves and by eating the insides; many times the only thing one sees is a pile of wet frass.

In captivity the larvae which feed entirely on flowers are healthier and mature faster than larvae which feed entirely on leaves.

With the staggering rate at which natural areas are being destroyed, it is good to have pictures published of this endangered habitat. A fairly thorough description of the San Bruno Mountains, San Mateo Co., is given by McClintock, and Knight (1968), "A Flora of the San Bruno Mountains, San Mateo County, California." The habitat is an area without trees and

with low growing vegetation, the tallest being approximately three feet. This area gets no protection from wind and fog from the Pacific Ocean.

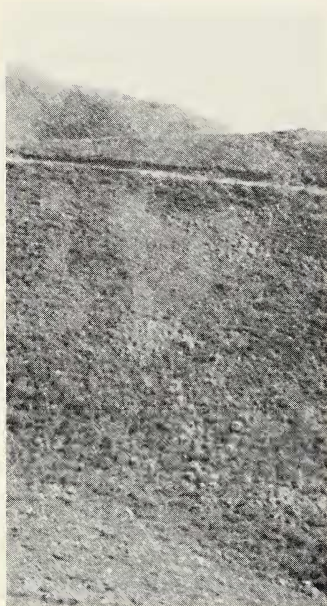


Fig. 1.—Western Side of the San Bruno Mountains, San Mateo County.

Fig. 2.—North facing slope of canyon below radio towers.

Fig. 3.—*Sedum spathulifolium* (Hooker), small, low growing, flowers approximately six inches tall.